National Influenza Vaccination Week and Other Special Events to Increase Coverage

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NIVW: Summary

- November 27-Dec 3
- Inaugural season
- Annual event
- To help raise awareness of the importance of influenza vaccination and the importance of continuing vaccination throughout November and beyond.
- Partnerships key to NIVW planning and implementation

NIVW Key Messages

- Influenza is a serious disease
- Vaccination is the best way to prevent influenza
- Vaccine supply is expected to be the highest ever and will continue to arrive on a rolling basis through December 2006
- Everyone wishing to avoid influenza should get vaccinated
- Providers should vaccinate every individual seeking it
- The time to get an influenza vaccine extends well into winter, through early 2007, when the influenza season typically peaks
- Flu vaccination of an individual helps protect that person and others

Making it happen in less than 4 weeks.....

- Immediately following the HHS/CDC decision to hold NIVW, several calls were held with partners.
 - NACCHO, AIM, ASTHO, the Influenza Vaccine Summit and other partners played a key role in defining the rationale for and purpose of NIVW.
 - Partners developed letters of support
- A press briefing to announce NIVW was held November 13
 - NIVW announcements also went out via MMWR,
 HAN, Summit newsletter, web, and other channels.

Making it happen in less than 4 weeks..... (cont.)

- Campaign materials were created and pitched
 - Television and radio PSAs, print ad, posters, op ed
 - Meetings were held with 3 major networks in NYC. Agreement secured from CBS to run PSAs during NIVW and beyond
 - Media buy plan developed



Making it happen in less than 4 weeks..... (cont.)

- A satellite media tour with Dr. Agwunobi was held Nov. 16
- CDC created an on-line calendar of events
 - Federal, regional, and state and territorial NIVW events could be submitted and viewed.
 - http://www.cdc.gov/flu/nivw06activities
- Communications to providers were distributed
 - "Dear colleague" letter from Dr. Gerberding
 - Guidance for providers who would not have enough vaccine for NIVW
- Outreach to business groups

Making it happen in less than 4 weeks..... (cont.)

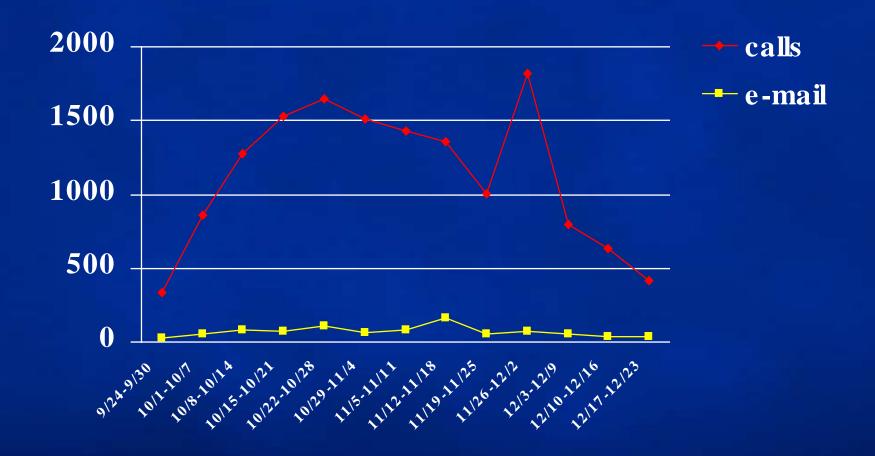
- Utilization of "new media"
 - CDC home page, snowman "graphical bug", podcasts, webinar for blog writers



During NIVW....

- HHS press conference held Nov. 27
- Radio and television ads played in 96 markets, covering 67.44% of the U.S. population.
- Radio and TV ads resulted in a potential 155,773,400 audience impressions.
- A full-page black and white print ad ran in the November 28th issue of USA TODAY reaching a potential audience of 2.2 million readers.
- CDC spokespeople conducted English- and Spanish-language radio interviews in mainstream and ethnic media nationwide.
- Summit newsletter went out daily

Seasonal Influenza Calls and E-Mail to CDCINFO by Week



Evaluating National Influenza Vaccination Week (NIVW)

Assumptions

- The goal of NIVW is to change the way people think about the timing of influenza vaccination
- This goal will likely require multiple years to accomplish.
- Changes in awareness/understanding typically occur before actual behavior change.
- Evaluation measures collected this year are thus most appropriately focused on awareness
- Any assessments of the timing of vaccine coverage this year can serve as a baseline for future NIVWs.

Evaluation Approach

Evaluation plans include:

- Surveys to evaluate awareness of NIVW and collect self-reported activities from public health officials, private providers and others
- Surveys to assess awareness among the public
- Surveys to obtain baseline estimates of annual vaccination (including timing of vaccination)

Public Awareness: National Survey of Adults

- Mixed methods
 - RDD Telephone sample (n = 1247)
 - Web-based panel (n = 1290)
- Participants ~70% White, 50% male, aged
 18 and older
- 24% of RDD respondents and 9% of Web respondents had heard of NIVW

Public Health: Awareness and Actions, I

Email Survey of State Immunization Programs

- 47 of 56 state/urban area programs responded (84%)
- 100% aware of NIVW
- Top sources: CDC (96%), AlM/other professional org (77%), tv/radio (15%), colleague (9%)

Actions Taken	#(%)
None	16(34)
Extra clinics	10(21)
Additional outreach	11(23)
Promotional/media event	19(40)
Buy more vaccine	5(11)
Partnered with Community Vax	6(13)
Promote to/collab with private provider	21(45)
Other	10(21)

Public Health: Awareness and Actions, II

Email Survey of Local Public Health Officials (NACCHO)

- 190 of 350 responded (54 %)
- 96% aware of NIVW
- Top 5 Sources: SHD (78%), CDC (72%), professional org (28%), tv/radio (16%), print media (16%)

Actions Taken	#(%)
None	103 (57)
Extra clinics	41 (23)
Special populations	27(15)
Promotional/media event	42(23)
Buy more vaccine	3(2)
Partnered with Community Vax	9(5)
Other	30(17)

Colleges/Universities: Awareness and Actions

Email Survey of American College Health Association List-serve participants

- 92 of 1,122 responded (8 %)
- 56% aware of NIVW
- Top Sources (n= 52): professional org (73%), local health department (31%), print media (13%)

Actions Taken (n=52)	#(%)
None	35 (67)
Extra clinics	8(15)
Additional outreach	7 (13)
Populations not routinely vaccinated	5(10)
Promotional/media event	1(2)
Buy more vaccine	4(8)
Partnered with Community Vax	2(4)
Other	3(6)

Suggestions for Improvement

- Provide more notice of NIVW; announce the specific week prior to start of season
- Consider an even later time for the week—December or January
- A communication packet with CDC messages for PH to distribute would be helpful
- Provide a way for state/local PH to share creative ideas about how to reach the public with the NIVW message

Suggestions for Improvement

- National PSAs on prime time television
- Ensure that messages from CDC aren't contradictory to NIVW messages about vaccine timing; messages should emphasize information about timing of disease peaks
- Keep the week during the same time each year to facilitate planning
- Make very clear that this week is about awareness rather than getting vaccinated during this particular week

Looking Ahead: NIVW 2007

- We need to plan now
- Needs to be a collective effort among partners
- Imagine what we can do with more than 4 weeks to prepare!

Other Activities

- NIVS team on extending the vaccination season
- NIVS Immunization Excellence Awards
- January media campaign activities
 - Radio media tours, release of matte articles and audio and video bite packages

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